

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 235

By Hood

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the Tennessee Association of Utility Districts on the celebration of its fiftieth anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to recognize those organizations that have made substantial contributions to the residential, commercial, and industrial development in the State of Tennessee and to providing a better way of life for Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Association of Utility Districts was formed in 1957 to serve the public interest by assisting its utility members in providing the public utility services and other vital public services they were created to perform; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Association of Utility Districts is the oldest state rural water association in the United States and was the first state rural water association created in the United States to assist public utilities in furnishing services to rural areas; and

WHEREAS, the 69<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the State of Tennessee enacted the Utility District Act of 1937 (the Act) to promote and encourage the furnishing of public utility services and other vital public services to areas within Tennessee without access to such services; and

WHEREAS, the Act provided for the furnishing of such public utility services and other vital public services to unserved areas in Tennessee by the creation of utility districts whose sole function is to provide such services for the benefit of their customers; and

WHEREAS, utility districts are not-for-profit special local governments under Tennessee law which operate their utility systems solely in the public interest and for the benefit of the present and future customers located within the utility districts; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Tennessee Association of Utility Districts is: "To provide the highest quality technical, legal, and operational support to assist its members in delivering safe and efficient services in the public interests"; and

WHEREAS, the support, representation, and assistance that the Tennessee Association of Utility Districts has provided to utility districts and to its other utility members have served to promote and encourage residential, commercial, and industrial development in the State of Tennessee and have improved the standard of living of Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Association of Utility Districts provides training and technical assistance to all water, wastewater, and natural gas utilities in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, the Tennessee Association of Utility Districts trained 2,168 utility employees in ninety-seven training classes and conducted 2,165 on-site technical assistance to 320 utilities across the State; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to recognize the fiftieth anniversary of the Tennessee Association of Utility Districts; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby recognize and commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the Tennessee Association of Utility Districts and applaud the management, employees, and members of the Tennessee Association of Utility Districts for the unmatched service that the association provides to the citizens of this State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation to the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Association of Utility Districts with this final clause omitted from such copy.